

MILPERSMAN 1520-050

Nuclear Propulsion Training (Surface and Submarine)

**Responsible
Office**

NAVPERSCOM
(PERS-42)

Phone: DSN 882-4441
COM (901) 874-4441
FAX 882-2648

References

NAVMED P-117, Manual of the Medical Department
5 U.S.C. 301
BUPERSINST 1540.41A

Eligibility

Officers and prospective officers in the following categories are eligible to apply for nuclear propulsion training:

- Unrestricted line officers on active duty in the grade of lieutenant, lieutenant junior grade, or ensign.
- Reserve officers in the above grades whose active duty has been delayed for pursuit of postgraduate studies.
- Midshipmen first class.
- Officer candidates attending Officer Candidate School.

Applicants shall be college graduates or prospective college graduates with credits in at least 1 year of college calculus-based physics and 1 year of college calculus through differential and integral calculus of one real variable. Credit is defined as completion of a course, including an extension course, offered by an accredited college or university.

Applicants shall satisfy the physical requirements of NAVMED P-117.

**Applicant
Counseling**

Prior to the submission of an application for nuclear propulsion training, the servicemember shall be advised of the following Privacy Act statement relative to the information provided: "The authority to request this information is derived from 5 U.S.C. 301, Departmental Regulations. The purpose of the requested information is to provide a record of qualifications in order to select officers and prospective officers for nuclear propulsion training for surface or submarine duty. The requested information is voluntary; however, failure to provide the information may result in nonselection for nuclear training."

Commanding officers shall ensure prospective applicants for nuclear propulsion training are counseled concerning the career opportunities afforded by this program and are encouraged to apply for such training. Prospective unrestricted line officer applicants shall also be advised that upon completion of nuclear propulsion training they will retain their unrestricted line designator, their sea duty requirement for promotion will be safeguarded, and their command opportunity will be enhanced. Navy's plans and policies pertaining to the personnel aspects of nuclear propulsion utilization are contained in BUPERSINST 1540.41A.

**Contents of
Letter Request**

Applications for nuclear propulsion training shall contain the following information in proper letter format:

- An original SF88, Report of Medical Examination and SF93, Report of Medical History shall be submitted to Chief, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery (MED-21), and a copy enclosed with the letter of application.
- Academic transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, including SAT/ACT scores.
- A complete summary of military service, including prior enlisted service (if any) and any service schools attended.

Use the following sample format:

From: (Individual officer's name)
To: Chief of Naval Personnel
Via: Commanding Officer

Subj: APPLICATION FOR NAVAL NUCLEAR PROPULSION
TRAINING

Ref: (a) MILPERSMAN 1520-050
(b) NAVMED P-117, Manual of the Medical Department

Encl: (1) Academic Transcript
(2) Copy of SF 88, Report of Medical Examination
(3) Copy of SF 93, Report of Medical History
(4) Summary of Military Service

1. I hereby apply for nuclear propulsion training according to reference (a). Enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted as evidence of my satisfying the requirements of references (a) and (b).
2. I [do/do not] desire submarine training.
3. I understand the service requirements contained in reference (a), and I agree [not to resign my commission/to remain on active duty] for the period of instruction.
4. I expect to be available to commence training after [fill-in date].
5. Upon acceptance for nuclear power training, I will agree to remain on active duty for sufficient time to serve a minimum 24-month nuclear division officer tour after completion of nuclear propulsion training.
6. Additional remarks:

[Signature of applicant]

**Review of
Applications**

The records of applicants meeting basic eligibility requirements will be screened by a board of officers from Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM) and Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. Those officers or prospective officers considered to have requisite qualifications will be ordered to Washington, D.C. to be interviewed by Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program. Selectees for nuclear propulsion training will then be ordered, at the earliest practical date, to the Nuclear Power School, Charleston, South Carolina for a 6-month course of academic instruction, followed by a 6-month operational course at one of the prototype sites located at West Milton, New York or Charleston, South Carolina. Successful completion of the 12 months of instruction will result in the assignment of the additional Qualification Designator **SN0 for submarine officers** or **KD1 for surface officers**.

Applicants desiring nuclear submarine duty shall qualify for officer submarine training according to this manual. Volunteers selected for nuclear submarine duty will be ordered to Submarine School, Groton, Connecticut for 13 weeks temporary duty under instruction, unless they have previously completed the course or are qualified in submarines as an officer. Assignment to Submarine School will be made immediately following satisfactory completion of nuclear propulsion training.

**Service
Obligation**

Officers selected from the fleet or the shore establishment are required to serve on active duty for a minimum of 2 years upon completion of nuclear propulsion training, or 1 year in addition to any minimum service requirement previously incurred, whichever is longer.

Officers selected for immediate assignment to nuclear propulsion training who are newly commissioned from any source, whose prescribed minimum required service is less than 5 years, are required to serve 1 year in addition to the minimum required service previously incurred.

Newly commissioned officers entering nuclear propulsion training following assignment to any postgraduate program shall have their postgraduate performance reviewed by a board of officers from NAVPERSCOM and Director, Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program, prior to receiving final orders to training. They are required to serve 5 years from the date of completion of graduate education.

All officers, upon acceptance for naval nuclear propulsion training, will agree to remain on active duty for a minimum 24-month nuclear division officer tour following completion of nuclear propulsion training.

For those officers who do not successfully complete nuclear propulsion training, provided the assignment to such course of instruction was at the officer's own request, shall be required to serve on active duty for a period equal to the officer's normal period of minimum required service, plus the time spent under instruction, unless released sooner to inactive duty or discharged by Chief of Naval Personnel.
